CHS family,

An elephant never forgets. In fact, I sometimes say I am an elephant because I have such a
good memory.

This week, I have been thinking of a different elephant – one on a journey during a rainy
season. Storms make it harder for the elephant and her guide to see where they are travelling.
The elephant lifts up the guide from the forest floor. It is a little slippery, but from the
elevated vantage point, the elephant and the guide can see the horizon and keep moving
toward their destination.

The elephant is like our college. CHS cannot avoid the pandemic storm, but we can remain
focused on who we are and where we are going. CHS is strong because of the vision and
structures that we put in place long before COVID-19. They have helped us thrive during the
past 17 weeks of remote work and will continue to chart our course as we begin our phased
return to campus.

Two weeks ago, I wrote about being present with our fear of the unknown. I have heard your
concerns and I understand the fear as the pandemic continues. This week, I am also reassured
with what is known. ASU has been hard at work creating a safe campus, and as I go to campus,
I feel confident that I am working in a low-risk environment because of our commitment to
proper distancing, face coverings and cleaning.

We can also know that the elephant, our college, is strong because of her ability to learn and
adapt. All plans reflect current public health guidance and are subject to adjustment as
needed.

The college is made up of people with different experiences and perspectives. When we come
together to listen and understand our many perspectives, the whole will succeed. For
example, while I do not have small children at home, I strive to understand how the pandemic
has affected parents. While not everyone’s job includes budgeting, we all strive to understand
the pandemic’s fiscal challenges. We take the broad view before making decisions, like the
elephant and guide looking above the trees to see the horizon. We are committed to each
other and the college. And we remember who we are.

I believe that it is through this commitment that we will persevere as a community, supporting
and counting on one another no matter what we may face in the weeks and months ahead.
Opportunities and reminders

- **New travel guidelines:** ASU has new policies for employees traveling domestically on university business. Additional steps are required before any travel. Learn more here.

- **Seeking your contributions to an innovative service:** Andrew Raub, senior systems programmer here at CHS, created a crowdsourcing Google form where anyone can share what safety measures they observe across Phoenix-area businesses (face covering use by employees and customers, etc.) so others can make informed decisions about where they go. The more people contribute, the better the information, so you’re invited to add your own experiences as you interact with local businesses. Input your observations in this form, read the responses in the spreadsheet or view a searchable map of locations.

- **Racial justice discussion group:** More than 20 CHS faculty and staff have signed up to read selected articles and then join small-group discussions. The virtual sessions will start soon. To sign up, please complete this form.

- **Story time:** I am encouraged to keep recording stories because many of your families seem to be enjoying it, even some who do not have kids. Here is this week’s story of Blueberries for Sal.

Take good care,

Deborah

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